

EVENING POST

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.
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(Established August 8, 1931.
Whole Number Issued 1811.

does frequently, aroused her family, and made herself in some not necessary to the loving clinging nature of the solitary child. She does not sometimes sit down and cry and sigh.

Red Ridge; and when the season dropped into winter, and the hunting season commenced, he used all the influence she possessed to persuade Theodore to join herself and Elaine and Walter Stahl in their hunting expeditions. Helen had an additional motive for capturing her little friend to make one in these parties: it was this: Helen

at her present age of young womanhood, began to find occasions of a certain indelicacy in being the only female in a party of gentlemen, even though one of that party was her own elder brother. The feeling was not strong enough to conquer her passion for wild sports; but it was quite enough to make her very much in earnest in this

ing to persuade. Therefore to become her companion in them. And in this attempt Helen was more successful than she had dared to hope. Far apart from the magnetic power of the beautiful and self-willed gipsy over the gentle, susceptible nature of the lonely child, there was a picturesque and romantic aspect about the wild life of the

brave, adventurous girl, she possessed a strong attraction for the young enthusiast. The artistic mind of Theodore very highly appreciated the handsome and spirited Helen. She sketched her twice, first as the goddess Diana, and next as Mr. Vernon; and the latter she transferred to her canvas to finish in her best style of art. There was no one to compare Helen's influence on

Theresa; she had the whole field to herself, and took possession, of course. Sometimes Theresa felt that neither Vivia nor Austin would approve of her joining the uniformed sports of Helen Whitman; but this was a dim, distant, almost unvoiced instinct; while the opposing force of Helen was very strong, clear and real.

When Helen had one of these hunting parties in view, she usually came over in the afternoon to Mount Storm, and coaxed Theodore to return with her to Red Ridge, and from that place started her off early the next morning. If they were going after rabbits or birds, or on night if the coon were the object of pursuit. The party

Theodore was only half willing and half afraid when making one of these expeditions, and was ever striving to conquer the girlish tenderness of her heart, as if to be sensitive and full of com-

passion were something to be ashamed of and to be overcome. It was a curious point to observe that both Basil and Wakefield treated Ellen with an air of indifference, as though she had been a third boy, which indeed they seemed to consider her, while they addressed themselves to serve and assist Theodore, as though she were the only girl of the work, in some strange

This first roused Helen's wrath, and then set her on searching for the cause, which she was long

long in Siding. It was not in Helen's nature to permit this neglect to continue, so she became as troublesome and as exacting as she could possibly be. Basil's jealousy awoke about the same time. It gave him the greatest uneasiness when Wakarusa anticipated him in helping Theodora over a fence or up a steep. And in rejoicing

And Waka would look at him in a sort of amazement, and go and do as he was bid—which, by-the-way, would not prevent him from flying to the assistance of Theodora at the very next opportunity. And this was the way that

"Walsfield, we have been friends a good many years. Now I want you to do me a favor. Just you attend to yourself, or to Nelly, or to anything else you like, only leave little Daughter

Wahnefeld looked searchingly in the rugged, irregular face of his friend a moment, and then with the involuntary exclamation of "It isn't possible!" gave the required pledge.

And thenceforth in all their expeditions, Wahnefeld became the best-cavalier of Helen, and Basil devoted himself to Theodora. Considerable

tender, and delicate as his rough, unimproved nature permitted him to be, was fixed in his attentions to the young girl. He called her "Doughter." And Theodore grew to like him in the character of a sort of rugged young bear of a father or elder brother; just upon the same principle that she looked upon old Pharaoh as an avuncle.

lurian "wails." He certainly never romantically dreamed of Blaise as a lover, such as she would have frightened her father from the party. Blaise, though very obtuse in most respects, had in some blundering manner stumbled upon the knowledge of this truth, and therefore he continued to call her "Daughter," and was

It was drawing near Christmas, when one day Theodore, sitting writing at her garret window, saw Diana Willman driving a carriage up the winding road that led to Mount Storm. Like some

that there was a deal box in the cart, but felt too little interest to wonder about it. The cart, as it approached the house, wound up out of her line of vision, and passed also out of her thoughts, until there was a rap at the door, and old Pharaoh put his head in and said:

Widow came long a' scow' her for you, on't's Kyrie.²⁷

this morning, was supposed to be on the train-
 mission store this big box that had come down
 from the city for you. So I just gave the fellow
 an acknowledgment for it, and got it put upon
 my cart and brought it over. Where did it come
 from? who sent it? what's in it, daughter?

..

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